the existing health infrastructure. Central assistance provided to the State during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Central assistance provided (Rs. in lakhs)
2000-01	89.06
2001-02	36.78
2002-03	11.89

Statement

District-wise Epidemiological Situation-1998-20Q? Himachal Pradesh

Sl. No.	District	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003*
1.	Bilaspur	52	32	29	11	11	11
2.	Chamba	78	29	14	3	0	1
3.	Hamirpur	80	78	33	28	28	24
4.	Kangra	402	226	191	137	96	44
5.	Kullu	127	18	29	3	1	1
6.	Mandi	147	96	74	48	14	14
7.	Shimla	65	66	46	36	16	12
8.	Sirmour	257	75	29	20	0	10
9.	Solan	55	9	18	17	1	1
10.	Una	170	71	28	46	9	3
	State Total	1433	700	491	349	176	121

*Upto October

Healthcare facilities in Himachal Pradesh

2058. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Himachal Pradesh has

submitted a proposal for expansion of health-care in the State, particularly in remote areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has proposed for establishment of some super special hospitals in most backward areas of the State; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action Government propose thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Standards for medical equipments

2059. SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that a large number of doctors in the country choose medical devices for their kickbacks rather than quality, while Government do not even pretend to regulate manufacture and sale of medical equipments;

(b) whether it is a fact that one cannot sell an aspirin without a licence but one can sell coronary stents, hips and knees without meeting a single regulation; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure the safety of patients undergoing operations for life threatening diseases?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (c) The Indian Medical Council (Professional Conduct, Etiquette and Ethics) Regulations 2002 made under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, enjoins upon each doctor to uphold and honor his profession and not to indulge in unethical acts like advertising/endorsement for therapeutic article/apparatus/appliances etc. In so far as Central Government hospitals are concerned there has been no reported incidence of choosing medical devices for kickbacks. The Medical devices are chosen on quality basis as per prescribed procurement procedure.